

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge receipt of an Office Action dated June 27, 2008. In this response, Applicants have amended the claims to place them in a format more typical for U.S. patent practice by removing reference numerals, replacing the phrase “characterized in that” with the term “wherein,” and inserting the conventional transitional term “comprising.”

Following entry of these amendments, claims 1-15 remain pending in the application.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Objection to Claims 5-6

On page 2 of the Office Action, the PTO has objected to claims 5 and 6. In this response, Applicants have both claim 5 and claim 6 to recite “the dryer medium which comprises a granulate.” Applicants note that line 6 of claim 1 refers to “a dryer medium.”

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to these claims.

Allowed Subject Matter

Applicants acknowledge, with appreciation, the PTO’s indication that claims 1-4 & 7-15 have been allowed over the prior art of record.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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